

Give e-resources a chance: a collaborative approach to collection assessment

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UNC CHARLOTTE

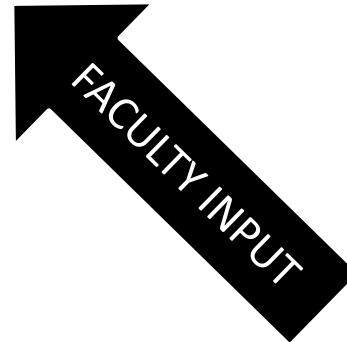
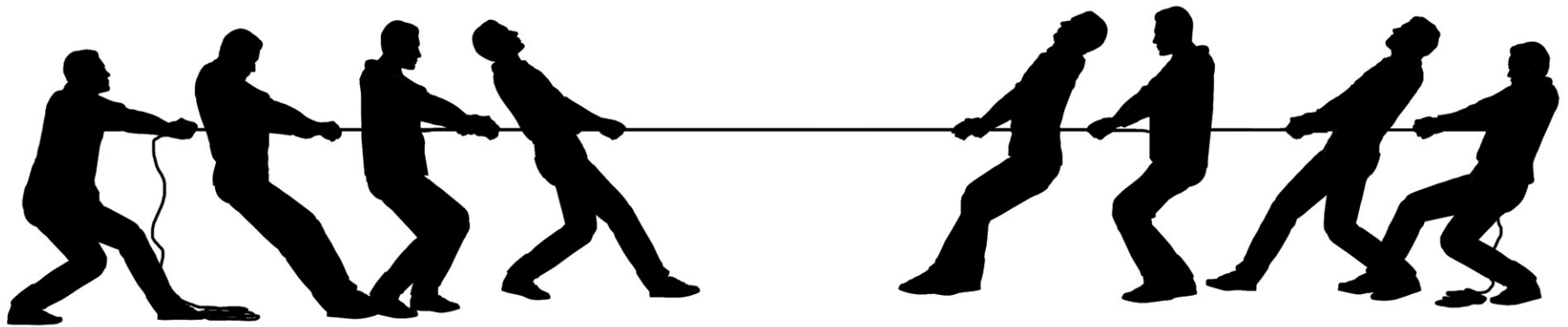
Why collaborate?



e-resource renewals

1. Subscription renewals notices
2. E-mail to liaisons for feedback
3. Review of usage data





The Project

1. Library survey of POLS faculty
2. Usage statistics of POLS resources
3. Data analysis
4. Presentation of findings to POLS faculty
5. Promotion of underutilized resources that are both unfamiliar and of interest to faculty



SPICES ANALOGY



Explanation for methodology

- 3-year check-up
- Understand faculty priorities for resources
- Get ahead of resource renewals
- Prevent cancellations of valuable resources
- Promote less familiar resources
- Increase use of valuable resources by classes and faculty



Library Survey of POLS Faculty

I have prepared a short 5-6 question survey that will gather information about the following:

- Resources of most value for your professional research
- Resources of most value for POLS student research
- Awareness of and value of POLS-related electronic library resources
- Comments and suggestions regarding library collections

Please take 10 minutes to complete this brief survey: <http://uncc.surveymshare.com/s/AYAYDMC>. Your participation in the survey will help the library better understand what resources you and your students rely on for research (regardless of whether or not they are accessed/accessible through the library), which library resources we could do a better job of promoting, and any concerns/suggestions you might have regarding library collection development as it relates to your research and teaching.

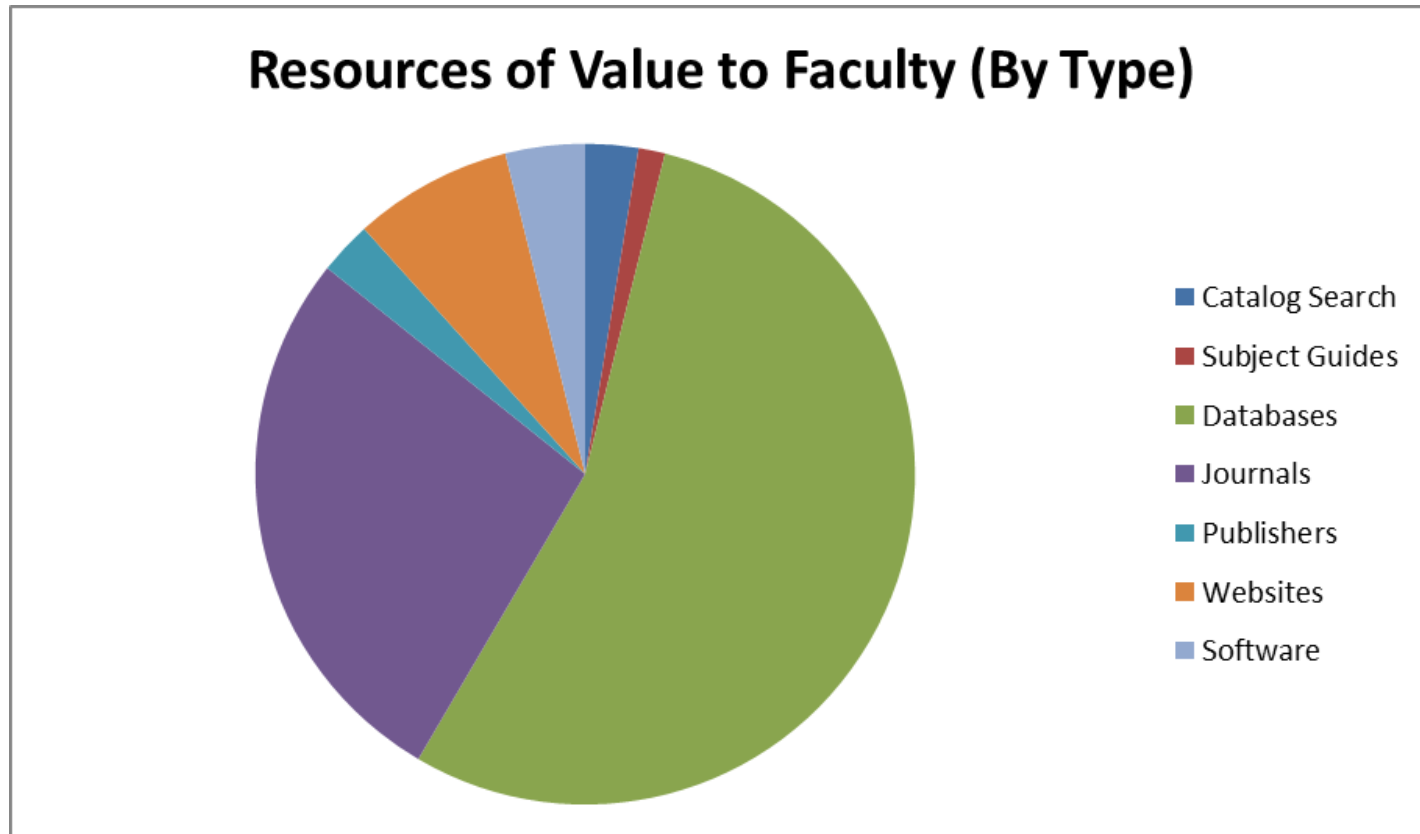


Library Survey of POLS Faculty

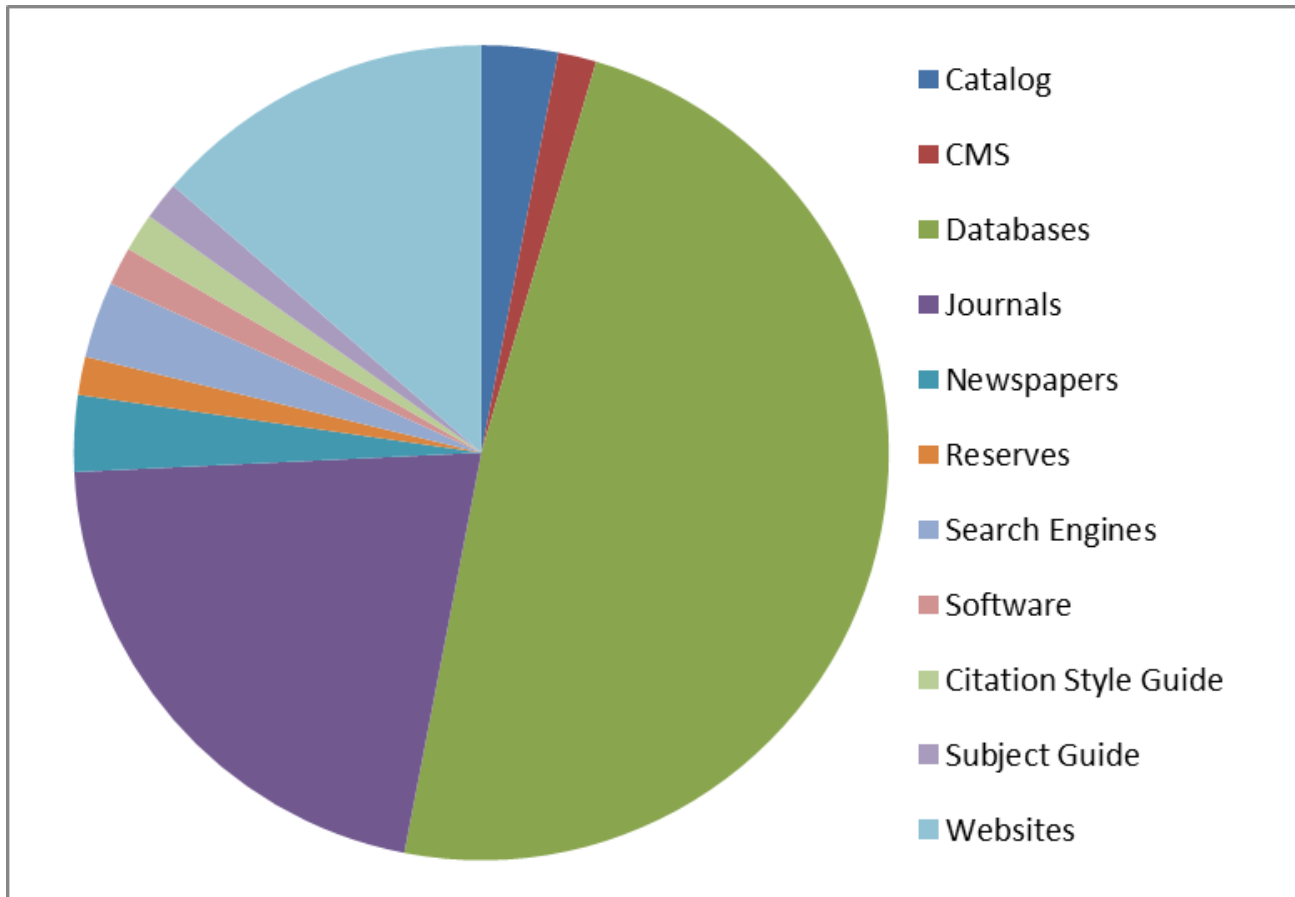
List the five most valuable resources for your research. Examples of resources might include specific journals, databases, search engines, websites, data sources, or other materials. Please list resources regardless of whether or not they are accessed through Atkins Library subscriptions.



Resources of Value to Faculty (by Type)



Resources of Value to Students (by Type)



Library Survey of POLS Faculty

Rate the importance of the library resources listed below for your research and/or teaching

	Essential	Important	Somewhat important	Useful but not essential	Not important for my work	Not familiar with this resource
Academic Search Premier/Complete	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CIAO, Columbia International Affairs Online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Congress and the Nation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CQ Researcher Online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CQ Weekly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CQ's Politics in America	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Findings

21 of 30 resources rated as essential

70% Essential

83% Important

67% Somewhat Important

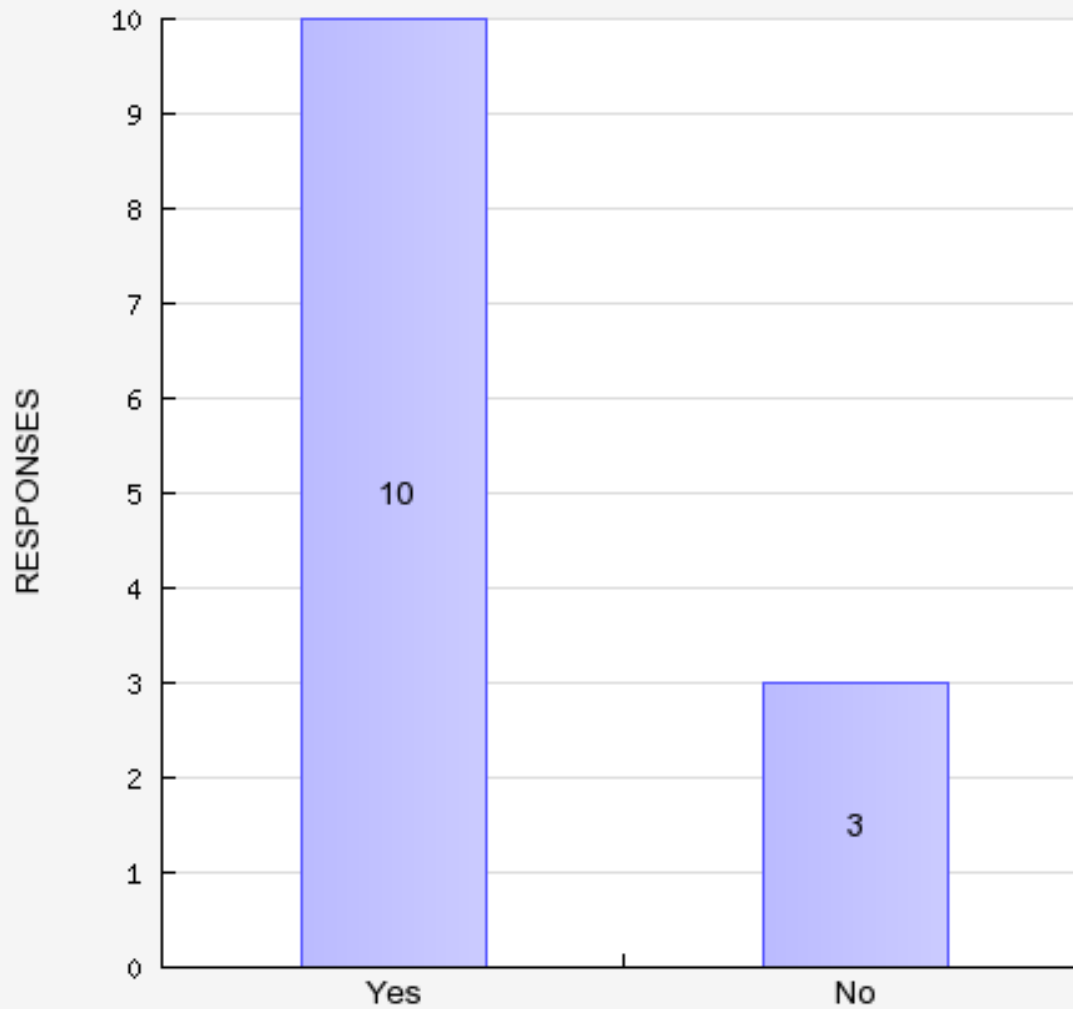
83% Useful but not essential

87% Not important for work

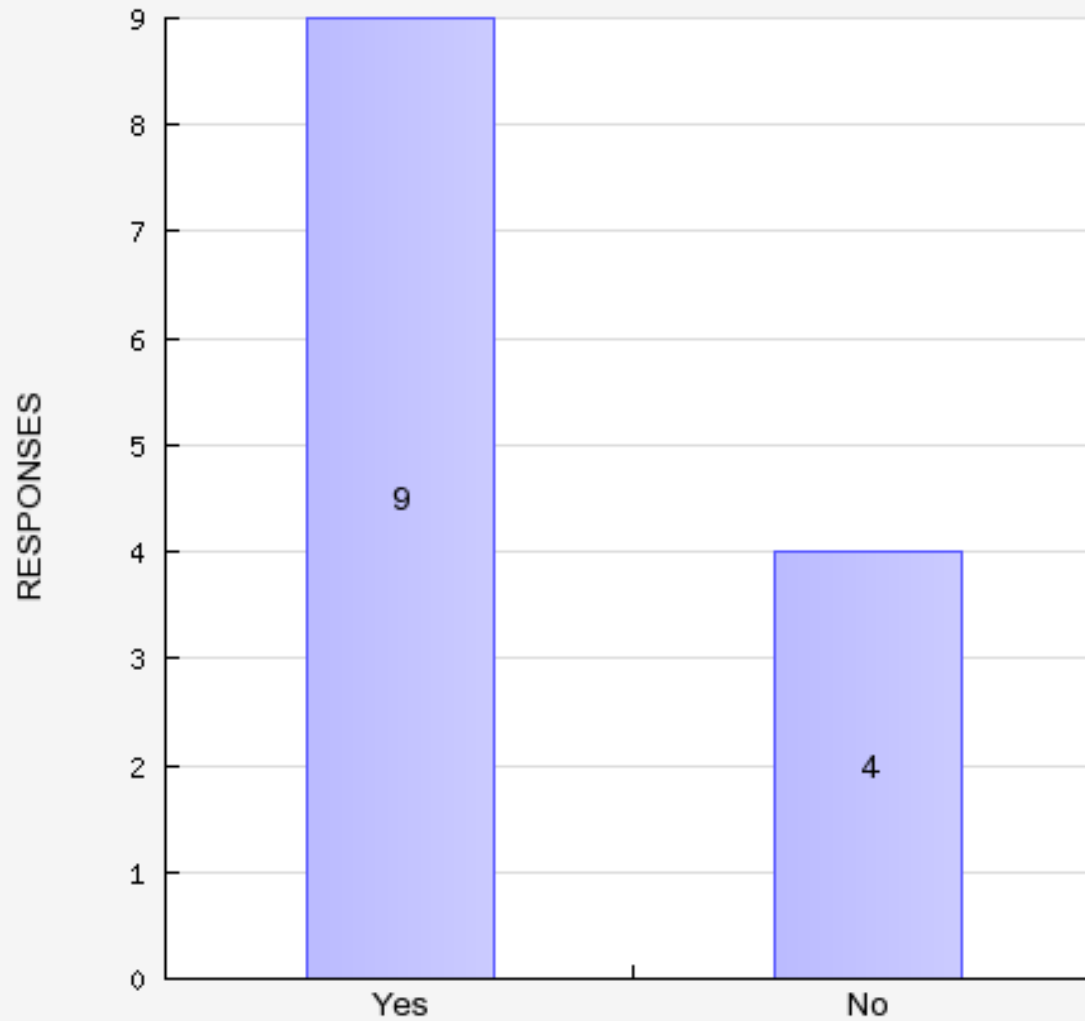
93% Unfamiliar with resource



**Were there any resources in this list
that you did not know were available
through the library?**



**Knowing that we have these resources,
are there any that you would like to
learn more about?**



Usage Statistics



What questions can usage data answer?

- What eResources are and aren't getting used?
- How are our eResources being used?
- When they are most often being accessed?



COUNTER 4 Reports

- Journal Reports 1 (JR1)
- Database Report 1 (DR1)
- Book Report 2 (BR2)



Non-COUNTER Usage Reports

- Reasons:
 - Information or Platform does not fit with COUNTER measures
 - Resource is not a typical library resource
 - Provide a bigger picture of the usage, outside of COUNTER
- Types:
 - Queries or Searches
 - Page Views or Record Views
 - Transactions (Westlaw)



Analyzing Usage

- For a complete look, analyze 3 years of statistics
- Normalize data
- Cost per use



Non-vendor data

- Google Analytics
- LibGuides or other web pages
- Link Resolver and Discovery Services
- ILL Stats



Limitations of Usage Stats

- Constantly changing resources and technology
- eBooks still need some work
- Limited picture of what users are actually doing



Message to faculty

- Increase awareness of the landscape of collection development and library budget
- Transparency
- Create realistic expectations
- Do not make promises you cannot keep
- Address fears/questions/concerns/confusion
- Present opportunities for learning
- Leave on a positive note



How can we ensure that we keep a particular resource?

1. Use it.
2. Usage stats not representing value?
3. Tell me about your research.



Political Communication

Cost per article: \$40

Cost per issue: \$225

Cost per year (subscription): \$713

ILL can get free access to up to 5 articles per journal per year



Political Communication

ILL can get free access to up to 5 articles per journal per year

ILL Stats (2012-2014)

2014 - 1

2013 - 2

2012 – 15 (\$40 X 10 = \$400)

2008 - 2

2007 - 4

2005 – 1

Annual subscription: \$713

Cost per use at 15 (with 5 included in ILL) = \$71

Cost per use at 25 (with 5 included in ILL) = \$35



Applying data to collection development decisions

1. ICPSR
2. Polling the Nation
3. WestLaw



Customize assessment plan

HISTORY PRIMARY SOURCE DATABASES

- Collection of usage data (COUNTER, LibGuides)
- Promotion of underutilized resources through integration in online learning modules, tutorials, and library instruction activities



Review: assessing e-resources at your library

- Faculty input
- Collection of usage data
- Analysis and presentation of data
- Roadmap for future promotion and collection



Questions?

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Questions to Consider:

- What are your goals for collection assessment?
- How do you evaluate e-resources at your library?
- Do you know who to contact at your library for usage data?
- When is a good time of year to evaluate e-resources?
- What is your process for cancellation/renewal?
- Do you have a collections committee?



Further Reading:

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Slide 4: <http://www.comicvine.com/forums/battles-7/bane-vs-dallas-cowboys-tug-of-war-1637693/>

Slide 6: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Spice-shelf.jpg>

Slide 16: <http://media.tab.co.uk/blogs.dir/7/files/2013/05/4.jpg>

http://blog.clarity.fm/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/shutterstock_124904114-603x483.jpg

